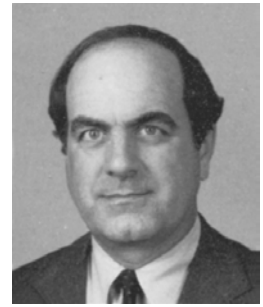


SAF/LLZ (Legislative Research Team)

SPRATT, John M., Jr. (Democrat)
Representative, 5th District, South Carolina
Elected 1982 to the 98th Congress
Reelected to succeeding Congresses



BACKGROUND

Born: Charlotte, North Carolina - 1 November 1942

Home: York, South Carolina

Marital Status: Married (Jane) - 3 children

Religion: Presbyterian

Education: Davidson College, B.A., 1964; Oxford U., M.A., 1966; Yale U., LL.B., 1969

Military: U.S. Army, 1969-71

Profession: Lawyer; banker; insurance executive

Political: No previous office. Succeeded Rep Ken Holland (D) who retired. Unopposed in 1990.

Reelected in 2000 with 59% of the vote and in 2002 with 86%.

Rep Spratt, a moderate who is pro-defense, worked in the Pentagon's Operations Analysis Group, 1969-71. In the 106th Congress, criticized a Republican proposal limiting military spending after 2004 when the F-22, the V-22, the JSF, missile defense, and everything else is going to be procured. Noted that Gen Hugh Shelton, CJCS, testified that a one percent cut would be devastating to the national defense. Expressed support for the F-22. Remarked that he represents Shaw AFB and flyers who fought in Desert Storm and also Operation Allied Force from Aviano AB under B/Gen Dan Leaf, and they all are convinced the F-22 is the way to go. Following meeting with NATO commanders, released a statement on the crisis in Kosovo describing why someone had to stand up to Milosevic and expressing the need to support NATO. Supported legislation calling for the deployment of a national missile defense system as soon as technologically possible. Supported \$23M in FY01 DoD auth funding for electronic warfare upgrades for the Navy's EA-6B jamming aircraft. Joined Rep Pitts (R-PA) in forming the EW Working Group to focus the attention of the HASC and Congress on EW needs.

In the 107th congress, became the convening co-chair of the Democratic Caucus Task Force on Defense and Military Personnel. Offered an unsuccessful amdt to the FY02 DoD auth seeking to reduce missile defense funding increases in the bill. Characterized SBIRS-Low as a key element of missile defense architecture and sought to reverse funding cuts in the FY02 DoD approps bill. Voiced alarm at the expiration of discretionary spending caps and so-called budget PAYGO rules that expired in 2002, suggesting that they provided necessary budgetary discipline. Supported upgrades to AF EW training contained in the Miniature Multiple Threat Emitter System (Mini-MUTES). Objected to the inclusion of language in the FY03 DoD auth that he said would jeopardize wilderness study areas beneath the air space of the Utah Test & Training Range (UTTR). Opposes the development and deployment of nuclear-tipped ballistic missile interceptors; supports maintaining flexibility to reduce operationally deployed nuclear weapons below 1700; supports stronger notification requirements prior to resumption of underground nuclear testing.

At the beginning of the 108th Congress was selected by new Minority Leader Pelosi (D-CA) to be Assistant to the Minority Leader, an effort to reach out to party moderates.

Additional: Member, Airpower Caucus; Army Caucus

AF Bases: Shaw AFB; Poinsett AF Range

COMMITTEES

ARMED SERVICES – Subcs on: Tactical Air and Land Forces; Strategic Forces

BUDGET -- Ranking Democrat